

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 11, 2006

The Honorable Alberto Gonzales
Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Attorney General Gonzales:

As you know, the Department of Justice and the FBI recently refused a number of Congressional requests for information regarding its five-year-old investigation into the 2001 Anthrax attacks. The FBI also announced a blanket prohibition on any further anthrax briefings, citing concerns about alleged public disclosures of sensitive information following previous briefings on the case. This is an inappropriate response to legitimate Congressional oversight requests.

Given recent revelations that FBI agents were the anonymous sources for *New York Times* stories casting suspicion on "person of interest," Stephen Hatfill, it appears that the FBI may itself be responsible for the inappropriate disclosures of sensitive case information. Whether on Capitol Hill or within the FBI, individuals who make inappropriate disclosures should be held accountable. However, as an institution, Congress cannot be cut-off from detailed information about the conduct of one of the largest investigations in FBI history. That information is vital in order to fulfill its Constitutional responsibility to conduct oversight of the Executive Branch.

Therefore, we request that you direct the FBI to provide Congress with a comprehensive briefing on the status of the five-year-old anthrax investigation.

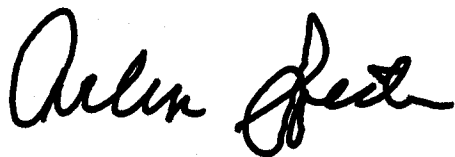
Sincerely,



CHARLES E. GRASSLEY
United States Senator



RUSH HOLT
Member of Congress



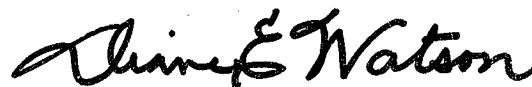
ARLEN SPECTER
United States Senator



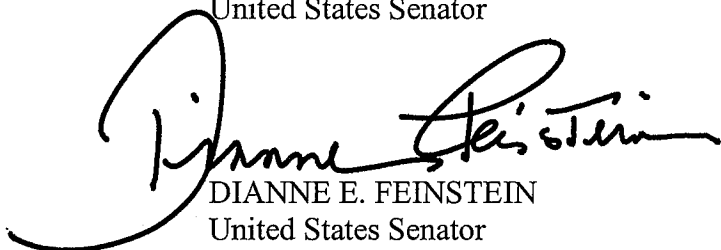
GEORGE MILLER
Member of Congress



CHARLES E. SCHUMER
United States Senator



DIANE E. WATSON
Member of Congress



DIANNE E. FEINSTEIN
United States Senator



CHARLES GONZALEZ
Member of Congress



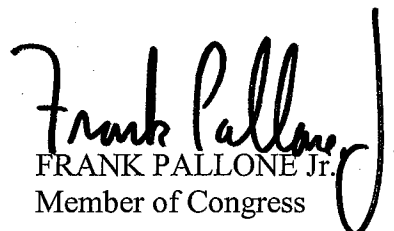
RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD
United States Senator



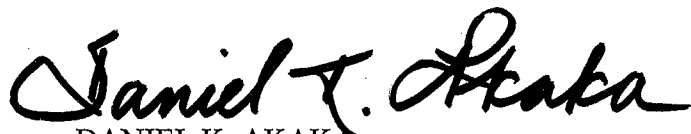
GARY L. ACKERMAN
Member of Congress



MARK DAYTON
United States Senator



FRANK PALLONE Jr.
Member of Congress



DANIEL K. AKAKA
United States Senator



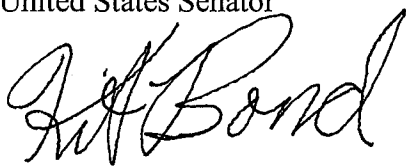
BARBARA LEE
Member of Congress



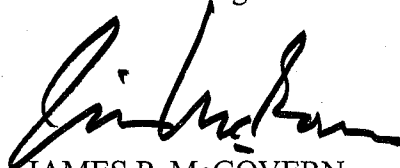
JIM BUNNING
United States Senator



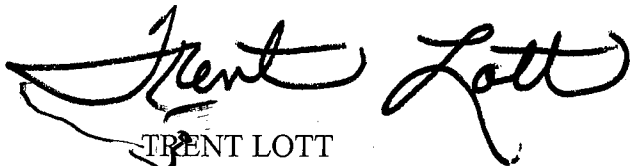
CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER S. "KIT" BOND
United States Senator




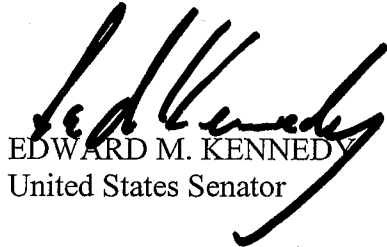
JAMES P. MCGOVERN
Member of Congress


TRENT LOTT
United States Senator



CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
Member of Congress

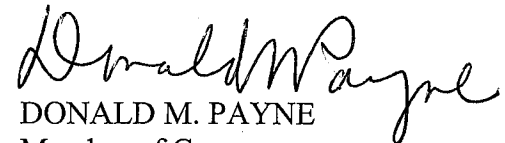

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG
United States Senator


DENNIS J. KUCINICH
Member of Congress



EDWARD M. KENNEDY
United States Senator

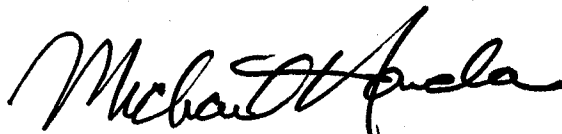

CHRISTOPHER SHAYS
Member of Congress


MARK L. PRYOR
United States Senator



DONALD M. PAYNE
Member of Congress


ROBERT MENENDEZ
United States Senator


RAÚL M. GRIJALVA
Member of Congress


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LYNN L. WOOLSEY
Member of Congress


BILL PASCRELL Jr.
Member of Congress


SAM FARR
Member of Congress


JOHN M. LARSON
Member of Congress